



an independent research study, collaboratively with another conservatoire, to explore the geographical and social demographics of A-level music students. The research study will explore the geographical and social demographics of populations of young people traditionally under-represented in conservatoire study.

#### BAME scholarships

UK black and minority ethnic (BAME) musicians are currently under-represented across the performing arts and these scholarships demonstrate the RCM's continued commitment to diversity. The initiative is for scholarships awarded on merit and that provide talented students with the opportunity to study at the UK's leading institution for music education with financial security. The scholarships are to be up to the value of full fees (currently £9,250 a year) and can be used either to cover tuition fees or to help with living costs. Each scholarship to be for the full four years of the BMus programme, providing the student makes satisfactory progress.

Further details of the RCM's planned continuing initiatives are available in the 2019-20 Access and Participation Plan.

## 2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Royal College of Music of progress against the targets approved in its 2019-



### 3. Investment commitments

#### 3.1. Access and participation investment for the last audited year

Please note that some differences in predicted vs actual spend may be due to reporting differences between academic and financial years.

Financial year	2019-20		
	Predicted spend (£)	Actual spend (£)	Difference (ppt)
Access investment	£200,000.00	£356,000.00	78%
Financial Support	£62,161.00	£62,000.00	0%

### 4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Royal College of Music has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

Reference Number	Steps that will be taken in the future to make expected progress against target
T16a_01	Target discontinued subsequent to the implementation of the 2020-25 Access & Participation Plan (see commentary).
T16a_02	The RCM has an exceptionally high level of continuation, which has been maintained. In terms of percentages, when taking into account small student numbers, +/-1% is not statistically significant, and we do not feel that further measures are needed.
T16a_04	From the 2020 recruitment cycle the RCM has also introduced bursaries for students in POLAR4 quintile 1
T16b_02	Continued reflection and evaluation on progress of participants takes place regularly and supports proactive planning to ensure progress against this target.
T16b_03	We expect activities to return to normal once the situation with the pandemic eases.



## Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

<b>Target reference number: T16a_01</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Whilst the RCM has made some progress against the baseline data and performance in previous years (e.g. 76% in 2017/18), this has been lower than expected when the target was first set in 2014/15. The key commitment regarding state school access was to complete research to better understand the demographics of potential UK-domiciled applicants for conservatoire study, focusing on the provision of A Level music education in state schools, which was successfully completed.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
For the 2019 admissions cycle details of applicants' school type were included as contextual data in papers for the RCM's Admissions Committee and a state school background taken into account when making decisions on borderline cases.

<b>Target reference number: T16a_02</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
All APP commitments regarding student support have been met, and the RCM's level of continuation remains extremely high for the sector.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
The academic year 2019-20 was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Additional support measures were implemented, such as enhanced counselling provision and an emergency Covid-19 Hardship Fund (which raised and distributed over £400,000 to students in financial need caused by the pandemic).

<b>Target reference number: T16a_04</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Whilst progress has been made against the baseline, it is slightly lower than was expected for 2019/20 when the target was set.

UKPRN 10007778:



UKPRN 10007778:

